

# The Cairo Bulletin.

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JOHN H. OBERLY, PROPRIETOR.

## THE BULLETIN.

### OUR CHURCHES.

## TELEGRAPHIC.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

### THE CONGRESSIONAL CONFERENCE AT ST. LOUIS.

### WELCOMING SPEECH BY MAYOR BROWN.

### THE NEEDS OF THE WEST AND SOUTHWEST DISCUSSED.

### SPEECHES BY GOV. WOODSON, HENRY T. BLOW AND E.O. STANARD.

### CHEAP TRANSPORTATION THE GREAT NEED OF THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY.

### ETC., ETC., ETC.

### THE CONGRESSIONAL CONFERENCE.

ST. LOUIS, May 13.—The temple in which the congressional conference was held to-day, is handsomely decorated.

Flags, banners and shields bearing the names of all the states in the union are hung from the railing of the gallery.

The stage is elaborately embellished with flowers and living plants in bloom, presenting a beautiful appearance.

The conference was called to order at 12:30 p.m. by Hon.

Henry T. Blow, who stated that on consultation with gentlemen from all parts of the country, it had been decided that

Mayor Brown, as the executive of the city of St. Louis, should preside over the conference, and that the members of the local executive committee should serve as other officers of the conference.

MAYOR BROWN.

Then took the chair and introduced Bishop Bowman, who invoked divine blessing on the conference.

Mayor Brown then delivered an address, in which, after bidding the congressmen present a most cordial and hearty welcome on behalf of the whole people of St. Louis, and one which he hoped would make the memory of their visit pleasant, he said:

"It was not our purpose in inviting you here to-day, to merely discuss our local attractions, neither was it our desire to invite you here for the purpose of bringing undue influences upon you, thereby endeavoring to secure your commitment to legislation calculated to take advantage of or injure any portion of our common country.

We have designated this assembly as a convention, but in character

it is more of an informal and friendly conference.

We desire to submit a plain practical exhibit of the needs of the West and South for improved water lines to the ocean. We do not desire to excite discussion, nor do we ask any vote in advance on legislative propositions, nor do we intend to embarrass our strict parliamentary proceedings.

The mayor then referred to the necessity of improved water routes to the seaboard, noted what the government has done for the sea coast in way of protection to life and property, and claims that the same should be done for the West, and to illustrate the perils of navigation on the Mississippi river, he says that in one bend of that river, only four miles in extent, there are the wrecks of thirty-six steamers, ramming up the way, and that is appropriately called "Graveyard bend." He says not only the West and South are interested in removing obstructions from and deepening the channel of the Mississippi river and tributaries, and the whole country, but also foreign nations, for the cheap transit of the products of the Mississippi valley.

He showed by statistics that by far the greatest increase in population, agricultural and manufactured products, during the past decade, occurred in the West, and that the present and future demand for increased transportation facilities is, and will be, in the Mississippi valley. He then entered into

### A COMPARISON.

Facilities would still exist. He showed by statistics that by far the greatest increase in population, agricultural and manufactured products, during the past decade, occurred in the West, and that the present and future demand for increased transportation facilities is, and will be, in the Mississippi valley.

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the wrecks of thirty-six steamers,

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He then shows that grain can be laid down in Liverpool via Mississippi river and New Orleans, 16 cents cheaper per bushel than via New York, and that if the

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